

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 07508 01 OF 02 030302Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----065821 030304Z /64

R 021125Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8443
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 7508

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, PK, AF
SUBJECT: SUBSTANCE OF DUB-AMIN MEETING PASSED TO GOP

REF: (A) KABUL 6240 (B) ISLAMABAD 7429

1. SUMMARY: I MET WITH GOP FOREIGN SECRETARY SHAHNAWAZ THIS MORNING, AUGUST 2, AND SHARED WITH HIM SUBSTANCE AMB. DUBS DISCUSSION WITH AFGHAN FONMIN AMIN RE: AFGHAN/PAK TENSIONS (REF A). FONSEC APPRECIATIVE OF WELL-TIMED INFORMATION AND STATED GOP/DRA RELATIONS BEING CONDUCTED ON TWO LEVELS -- ON RHETORICAL LEVEL FRICTIONS EMPHASIZED BUT IN PRIVATE AFGHANS APPEAR ANXIOUS FOR REESTABLISHMENT OF SOME SORT OF MEANINGFUL DIALOG.

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PAGE 02 ISLAMA 07508 01 OF 02 030302Z

--SHAHNAWAZ EMPHASIZED THERE IS NO RPT NO BASIS TO DRA CLAIMS OF PAK SUPPORT FOR BORDER INCURSIONS. HE REPEATED WHAT WE HAVE HEARD FROM SEVERAL LEVELS OF GOP, THAT GOP IS ACTIVELY DISCOURAGING SUCH MISCHIEF BY BORDER TRIBAL PATHANS.

--TARAKI HAS INDICATED DESIRE VISIT PAKISTAN AND HIS GOVERN-

MENT HAS INVITED GOP COMMERCE MINISTER TO VISIT KABUL.

--SOVIETS CONSULTED BY GOP ON THIS TENSION SAY THEY SHOULD BE USED AS INTERMEDIARY IN GOP-DRA DIALOG BUT THAT THEIR (USSR) INFLUENCE IN KABUL SHOULD NOT BE OVERRATED.
END SUMMARY.

2. I CALLED ON FONSEC SHAHNAWAZ ON SHORT NOTICE THIS MORNING TO PASS ON SUBSTANCE AMB. DUBS CONVERSATION WITH DRA FONMIN AMIN. TIMING WAS OPPORTUNE AS SHAHNAWAZ PREPARING TO MEET TODAY WITH PAK AMBASSADOR HOME FROM KABUL TO DISCUSS JUST SUCH MATTERS. I DELIVERED GIST OF KABUL 6240, EXPLAINING WE DO NOT WISH NOR INTEND TO BECOME INTERMEDIARIES BUT WE WANTED GOP TO KNOW WHAT DRA IS SAYING. I EMPHASIZED WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE OF ANY GOP ANTI-DRA ACTIVITIES AS ALLEGED BY TARAKI'S GOVERNMENT.

3. AFTER LISTENING ATTENTATIVELY (FONSEC ACCOMPANIED BY NOTETAKER) SHAHNAWAZ ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HIS DCM IN KABUL HAD REPORTED DISCUSSIONS OF THESE TOPICS WITH AMEMBASSY. HE REITERATED WHAT WE HAVE HEARD FROM SEVERAL LEVELS OF GOP, THAT FAR FROM INSTIGATING OR SUPPORTING DISSIDENTS, GOP IS ACTIVELY DISCOURAGING TRIBESMEN AND OTHERS WHO WANT TO PROMOTE TROUBLE IN AFGHANISTAN. HE CHARACTERIZED DRA TACTICS AS BEING QTE TWO FACED. UNQTE. WHILE AFGHANS MAINTAIN HARD-NOSED PUBLIC FACE (ESPECIALLY IN
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PAGE 03 ISLAMA 07508 01 OF 02 030302Z

INT. FORA) ACCUSING PAKS INTERFERENCE IN FRONTIER, IN PRIVATE THEY KNOW GOP NOT INVOLVED IN FOSTERING DISSIDENCE. SHAHNAWAZ CALLED DRA POSTURE MYSTERIOUS FOR ITS DICHOTOMY. HE ILLUSTRATED PRIVATE FACE BY SAYING (EMPHASIZING CONFIDENTIALITY) THAT TARAKI HAS AGREED TO PAY VISIT TO PAKISTAN AND HAS ISSUED INVITATION TO GOP MINCOMMERCE TO VISIT KABUL (HE WILL). WHEN ASKED BY PAKS WHY PUBLIC FACE HAS BEEN SO HOSTILE TARAKI REPORTEDLY REPLIED THAT HE AND AMIN WERE TO BE QTE TAKEN SERIOUSLY

UNQTE BUT OTHERS NOT.

4. SHAHNAWAZ SAID GOP HAS BROUGHT USSR INTO PICTURE IN MEETINGS BOTH IN ISLAMABAD AND MOSCOW. PAK POSITION IS THAT DRA AGITATION AND ALLEGATIONS GO BEYOND WORST DAYS OF DAOUD REGIME. SOVIETS RESPONDED WITH ADVICE NOT TO TAKE AFGHAN RHETORIC TOO SERIOUSLY AS MOSCOW FEELS DRA WILL NOT TAKE ISSUE BEYOND VERBAL STAGE. ON OTHER HAND, SOVIETS WARNED PAKS NOT TO OVERRATE THEIR OWN (SOVIET) INFLUENCE WITH TARAKI REGIME. FINALLY, THE SOVIETS EXPRESSED DESIRE THAT ISLAMABAD/KABUL DIALOG BE CHanneled THROUGH MOSCOW. SHAHNAWAZ MADE IT SOUND AS IF SOVIET INTERMEDIARY OFFER

WAS ALMOST A DEMAND.

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 07508 02 OF 02 030708Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----069074 030711Z /11/64

R 021125Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
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AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 7508

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y T E X T

EXDIS

5. THE ISSUE OF PUSHTUNISTAN AND BALUCHISTAN BEING RE-
SURRECTED BY DRA IS PURE QTE EYEWASH UNQTE ACCORDING TO
SHAHNAWAZ. THE BALUCH ISSUE HAD LONG BEEN COMPLETELY
DROPPED BY TH
ECAUD REGIME AND THE PUSHTUN PROBLEM WAS
QUIESCENT. TARAQI'S SAYING NOW THAT HIS GOVERNMENT KNOWS
NOTHING OF DAOUD'S NEGOTIATIONS AND AGREEMENTS AND THAT
ENTIRE ISSUE IS DE NOVO IS SIMPLY NOT TRUE. TARAQI IS
DOING THIS, SHAHNAWAZH.&&3 53\$, TO ESTABLISH QTE MAXIMUM
DEMEND UNQTE FROM WHICH IT COULD PRESUMABLY NEGOTIATE DOWN
TO MORE REALISTIC LEVELS.

--I SUGGESTED THAT ONE AUDIENCE FOR THESE ACCUSATIONS MAY
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PAGE 02 ISLAMA 07508 02 OF 02 030708Z

BE THE SOVIETS FROM WHOM TARAHI'S REGIME WOULD LIKE MORE MILITARY HARDWARE. SHAHNAWAZ AGREED SAYING THE PLOY WAS VERY TRANSPARENT.

6. COMMENT: I THINK PASSING SUBSTANCE OF AMB. DUBS' CONVERSATION WITH AMIN WAS USEFUL AND TIMELY EVEN THOUGH IT REPRESENTS A MANIFESTATION OF WHAT SHANAWAZ LABELS THE PUBLIC FACE. IT PERHAPS REINFORCED GOP CONFIDENCE IN ITS OWN ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION AND MAY AID MEASURED RESPONSES.

--ON THE OTHER HAND, SHAHNAWAZ'S CHARACTERIZATION OF THE DICHOTOMY IN GOP/DRA RELATIONS IS NEW TO US AND SOMEWHAT REASSURING. ALSO THE SOVIET OFFER OF INTERHADIACY -- WITH ITS DISCLAIMERS -- IS A NEW TWIST AND REVEALS AT LEAST ONE ASPECT OF THE RECENT GOP MISSION TO MOSCOW LED BY GHULAM ISHAQ. I HOPE TO GET MORE DETAILS LATER FROM MINSTATE AFGHA SHAHI.

--OUR CONVICTION THAT THE TOP IS, IN FACT, ACTIVELY DISCOURAGING FRONTIER INCURSIONS WAS REINFORCED BY THE DISCUSSIONS WITH SHAHNAWAZ.
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